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Message Text

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51
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SCCT-01 SP-02 PRS-01 SAM-01 INR-07

L-02 NSC-05 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 SCA-01 SSO-00 CCO-00

USSS-00 INRE-00 SY-04 A-01 OPR-01 SCS-03 USIE-00

AID-05 /060 W
---------- 112911
Z O 011500Z MAR 75
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 0121
INFO USCINCSO IMMEDIATE
DOD DIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
DA (TPMG) //DAPM-CPA// IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 1422

SITREP 27

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, ASEC, AR
SUBJECT: EGAN MURDER

1. AMBASSADOR HILL CALLED ON FOREIGN MINISTER AT 0915 AT LATTER'S REQUEST. VIGNES EXPRESSED GOA'S DEEP REGRET OVER DEATH OF MR EGAN. HE INDICATED LATTER WOULD BE GIVEN FULL PROVINCIAL HONORS. FLAG WILL BE FLOWN AT HALFMAST IN CORDOBA PROVINCE DURING DAY OF THE FUNERAL. VIGNES INDICATED AMBASSADOR GIRALDES, CHIEF OF PROTOCOL, WILL REPRESENT FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AT FUNERAL; INTERVENTOR LACABANNE AND PROVINCIAL CABINET WILL REPRESENT GOVERNMENT OF PROVINCE OF CORDOBA.

2. VIGNES AGREED THAT WE MUST RESPECT MRS EGAN'S WISHES, BUT HE BELIEVED IT WAS BY FAR DESIRABLE THAT FUNERAL BE HELD AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, I.E. ON SUNDAY (MARCH 2). IN PRESENCE OF AMBASSADOR HE CALLED INTERVENTOR LACABANNE AND ASKED LATTER TO ASSIST CONSUL GENERAL HUEY IN EVERY WAY WITH ARRANGEMENTS FOR FUNERAL. AMBASSADOR HILL AGREED TO INFORM FOREIGN MINISTRY OF
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COMPOSITION OF EMBASSY CONTINGENT TO FUNERAL, DETAILS OF TRAVEL,

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ETC. AS SOON AS AVAILABLE.

3. VIGNES ASSURED AMBASSADOR THAT GOA WILL PROVIDE MAXIMUM SECURITY FOR FUNERAL. THIRD ARMY CORPS AS WELL AS PROVINCIAL POLICE WILL BE DEPLOYED. NONETHELESS, VIGNES POINTED OUT THAT CORDOBA IS "PROVINCE IN TURMOIL," AND THERE WILL BE RISKS. HE STRONGLY RECOMMENDED AGAINST ATTENDANCE BY FAMILY FROM U.S., SUGGESTING INSTEAD A MEMORIAL SERVICE LATER, PERHAPS IN BUENOS AIRES. HE ALSO INDICATED THAT WHILE GOA WOULD DO EVERY-THING POSSIBLE TO ASSURE AMBASSADOR HILL'S SECURITY SHOULD HE ATTEND FUNERAL IN CORDOBA, IT IMPOSSIBLE TO GUARANTEE HIS SAFETY (SEE SEPTEL).

4. IN CLOSING, VIGNES AGAIN EXPRESSED GOA'S REGRETS AND INDICATED LETTERS OF CONDOLENCES BEING SENT FROM MRS PERON TO PRESIDENT FORD AND FROM HIM TO SECRETARY KISSINGER, IN ADDITION TO LETTERS TO MRS EGAN. VIGNES WILL ALSO COME TO CHANCERY BEFORE NOON TODAY (MARCH 1) TO OFFICIALLY EXPRESS GOA'S CONDOLENCES.

5. AMBASSADOR HILL INFORMED FOREIGN MINISTER OF LETTER ALLEGEDLY FROM EGAN ADDRESSED TO AMB HILL WHICH FOUND IN BAR IN CORDOBA ABOUT 2100 LAST NIGH, THRUST OF WHICH IS AS FOLLOWS:

MY WIFE IS GOING THROUGH VERY INTRANQUIL PERIOD DUE TO CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH YOU WILL UNDERSTAND. THE MONTONEROS WHO DISAPPEARED, KIDNAPPED BY THE POLICE, ARE PROBABLY DEAD. I THINK YOU HAVE THE POWER TO ASK THE GOA TO COMPLY WITH THE MONTONEROS' REQUEST. IF THEY ARE NOT DEAD, USE YOUR INFLUENCE TO HAVE THEM RELEASED. IF REQUEST IS NOT FULFILLED, I WILL DIE. MY LIFE IS IN YOUR HANDS, IN ISABELITA'S AND THE FRIENDLY ARMY.

6. LETTER WAS PRINTED AND WAS UNDATED BUT SIGNED BY EGAN.
HILL

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Executive Order: GS
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Subject: EGAN MURDER
TAGS: PINS, ASEC, AR, US, (EGAN, JOHN P), (VIGNES, ALBERTO JUAN VICENTE), (HILL, ROBERT CHARLES)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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